

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/604,257	LONG ET AL.	
	Examiner Laura Edwards	Art Unit 1734	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment filed as of 9/1/05.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other See Continuation Sheet.

LAURA EDWARDS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Continuation of Attachment(s) 9. Other: The drawings filed as of 7/20/05 are accepted.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7 would be allowable because there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of a screen printing nozzle comprising the combination of a nozzle body, a first rubber layer on the nozzle body, a second rubber layer on the first rubber layer, the second rubber layer including a contact surface to contact a stencil mask, the second rubber layer has a durometer that is approximately 1.5 to 4 times the durometer of the first rubber layer, and an opening through the nozzle body and rubber layers wherein material is allowed to flow to the stencil mask.

Claims 8-14 would be allowable because there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of a screen printing nozzle comprising the combination of a nozzle body, a first rubber layer on the nozzle body, a second rubber layer on the first rubber layer, the second rubber layer including a contact surface to contact a stencil mask, the second rubber layer has a durometer that is approximately 1.5 to 4 times the durometer of the first rubber layer, the second rubber layer comprises a thickness equal to or greater than the first rubber layer, the durometer of the second rubber layer is dependent upon the thickness of the second layer, and an opening through the nozzle body and rubber layers wherein material is allowed to flow to the stencil mask.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patent recognizes the state of the art with respect to a non-contacting type ink jet nozzle head having a surface coated with layers of different materials of varying hardness: Fukushima et al (US 6,629,754).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura Edwards whose telephone number is (571) 272-1227. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Fiorilla can be reached on (571) 272-1187. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Laura Edwards
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1734

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November 10, 2005